

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 /076 R

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R 052055Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, AR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US/ARGENTINE ARRANGEMENT

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7287

1. EMBASSY, IN RESPONSE TO TETTAMANTI'S LETTER TO
AMBASSADOR, MAY RESPOND EITHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY AS
IT PREFERS.

2. REPLY SHOULD BE LIMITED OT FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. SINCE GOA HAS NOT YET HONORED OCMMITMENT TO
AUTHORIZE US CARRIERS TO OPERATE AS CONTEMPLATED IN MOU
OF DECEMBER 22, 1972, WE AGREE THAT FURTHER CONVERSATIONS
ARE IN ORDER AND WE ARE PREPARED AS SUGGESTED BY THE GOA
TO RECEIVE AN ARGENTINE DLEEGATION IN WASHINGTON AND
SUGGEST THAT THE TALKS BEGIN NOVEMBER 19, 1973.

B. THE PROBLEMS ARISING IN OUR CIVIL AVIATION
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ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOT BETWEEN THE US CARRIERS AND THE

ARGENTINE CARRIER, BUT RATHER ARE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS. WE THERE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE THEM IS ON A GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT BASIS AND FOR THIS REASON WE ARE NOT DISPOSED TO AUTHORIZE OUR CARRIERS TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF AEROLINEAS ARGENTINAS.

C. IT SHOULD BE FURTHER NOTED THAT THE USG NEVER AGREED TO A STANDSTILL OR MORATORIUM REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECEMBER 1972 MOU. OUR ACTION WAS LIMITED TO TAKING NOTE OF THE GOA'S STUDY OF THE MOU. THE RESULTING FAILURE OF THE GOA AUTHORITIES TO TAKE THE ACTION PROVIDED FOR IN THE MOU DID NOT PROVOKE A RETALIATORY RESPONSE FROM US. WE HAVE HONORED THE MOU AND WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT THE GOA WILL ALSO HONOR IT IN THE REMAINING 15 MONTHS OF THE PERIOD OF ITS EFFECTIVENESS.

3. FYI. EMBASSY WILL NOTE THAT WE ARE SUGGESTING A SOMEWHAT LATER DATE THAN SECOND HALF OF OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER FOR CONSULTATIONS AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY THERE MAY BE FURTHER CHANGES AMONG POLICY OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL AVIATION AFTER PERON'S INAUGURATION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF THIS LIKELIHOOD. WE ARE PREPARED TO CHANGE PROPOSED DATE TO A LATER ONE IF SO DOING WILL PROVIDE GREATER ASSURANCE THAT WE WILL BE DEALING WITH OFFICIALS WHO ARE TO BE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE IN THESE MATTERS.

4. WE NOTE OMISSION OF ANY REFERENCE TO 1947 AGREEMENT. US HAS LONG HELD THAT 1947 AGREEMENT NOT VALID, AND AT NO TIME IN THE TWO SETS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN JUNE AND DECEMBER 1972 DID THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION ADVANCE THESIS THAT IT WAS. THIS MAY BE MENTIONED IF SUBJECT ARISES AGAIN INFORMALLY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE198762
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/AN:WBCOBB:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731047/aaaabidi.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUENOS AIRES 7287
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: US/ARGENTINE ARRANGEMENT
TAGS: ETRN, AR
To: BUENOS AIRES
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005